## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

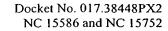
1	1. A method for coordinating charging information in a communications network,
2	the method comprising:
3	establishing a communication connection;
4	generating a globally unique charging identification in a first network element and
5	associating said globally unique charging identification with said communication
6	connection; and
7	sending said globally unique charging dentification from said first network
8	element to a second network element.
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- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said second network element uses said globally unique charging identification to collect charging information.
- 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said globally unique charging identification includes the address of the first network element.

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	1	4. The method of claim 1, wherein said communication channel is a Packet Data
	2	Protocol (PDP) context.
	1	5. The method of claim 1, wherein said globally unique charging identification is
p_	2	generated by a GGSN.
2	3	
	1	6. The method of claim 1, wherein said first network element is a Mobile Station
	2	(MS).
		i,
	1	7. The method of claim 1, wherein said first network element is a Serving GPRS
	2	Support Node (SGSN).
	1	8. The method of claim 1, wherein said first network element is a Gateway
b	2	GPRS Support Node (GGSN).
<i>y</i> \	> <sup>1</sup>	9. The method of claim 1, wherein said second network element is a Call State
3	2	Control Function (CSCF).



l	10. The method of claim 1, wherein said second network element sends said	
2	globally unique charging identification towards an endpoint of a communication	nc
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	11. The method of claim 10, wherein said second network element sends said	
	globally unique charging identification to a second network.	
1	12. The method of claim 10, wherein said second network collects charging data	
2	using said globally unique charging identification and prepares billing using the collected	
3	charging data.	
)	13. The method of claim 12, wherein said second network collects charging data	
_	from a plurality of call detail records associated with said globally unique	
7	charging identification.	
1	14. A method for coordinating information between a transport layer and an	
2	application layer in a communications network, the method comprising:	

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layer; and

tuple pair.

initiating a transaction in a first network element in an application layer;

assigning a tuple for each communication connection within said transaction;

initiating a communication connection in said first network element in said application

associating said communication connection with said transaction using said tuple or

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23.	The method of	of claim	14, Werein	said	transaction	is a	call
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24. A system for coordinating information between an application layer and a

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means for initiating a transaction in a first network element in an application layer; means for assigning a tuple or tuple pair to said transaction; means for initiating a communication connection in said first network element in said application layer; and

transport layer, the system comprising:

means for associating said communication connection with said transaction using said tuple or tuple pair.